

Grand Canyon

National Park
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Groundbreaking Ceremony for Canyon View Information Plaza

Mather Point

Friday, April 23, 1999

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.



Schedule of Events

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Groundbreaking Ceremony

at Mather Point

11:30 a.m.

Walking tours of the future
Canyon View Information Plaza site.

*Meet Rangers at the east end of
Mather Point Parking Lot. Allow 1 hour.
Shuttle buses will return to Village
after tours end.*

12:30 p.m.

1st bus tour of General Management
Plan projects / sites.

*Seating is limited to the first 75 visitors.
Meet directly in front of the Visitor Center.
Allow 1 ½ hours.*

2:00 p.m.

2nd bus tour of General Management
Plan projects / sites.

*Seating is limited to the first 75 visitors.
Meet directly in front of the Visitor Center.
Allow 1 ½ hours.*

***In case of inclement weather, the
location of the groundbreaking
ceremonies will be at the
Shrine of the Ages,
next to the Visitor Center.***

*The walking tours will be replaced
with an illustrated talk in the Shrine.*

You are at Grand Canyon National Park during a time of historical significance. On April 23, 1999, the National Park Service will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for Canyon View Information Plaza, a new orientation/transportation hub to be located near Mather Point on the Canyon's South Rim.

The facility is the first of its kind and scope in a national park and will profoundly change the way people visit national parks in the future. Located 500 – 800 feet back from the canyon rim, the facility is designed to accommodate peak flows of 4,200 people per hour and will provide visitors with their first view of the canyon, a menu of activities to plan their visit, and the means to access those activities. The facility will also be the first comprehensive center in a national park designed to orient and serve as a hub for four modes of transportation; bus, train, bicycles and walking.

The ground breaking ceremony is open to the public and will be held at 10:00 a.m. at Mather Point. Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater,

Park Superintendent Robert Arnberger and other dignitaries will participate in the event.

Funding for this project will be accomplished through a variety of funding sources including Recreation Fee Demonstration Program funds, authorized by Congress in 1996. This program allowed for visitor fees collected at Grand Canyon National Park to be used to construct, repair and improve park infrastructure to enhance visitor experience.

Please join the National Park Service as we celebrate a new chapter in the history of Grand Canyon National Park.

Ranger-led walking tours of the future plaza site as well as **bus tours of other park General Management Plan projects** are scheduled after the groundbreaking ceremony ends. (Please see schedule of events box on this page)

Note: Mather Point will be closed to private vehicles from 8:00 p.m. on April 22 to approximately 12:00 noon on April 23.

Transportation to and from Events

Use the free shuttle bus system to attend the groundbreaking ceremony and special events throughout the day. The map on pages 6-7 of *The Guide* shows vehicle parking areas and shuttle bus access points.



Shuttle Service for April 23, 1999

See page 6 of *The Guide* for shuttle pick up locations.

Village Loop Shuttle – a Mather Point stop will be added to provide access for the ceremony and walking tours. Shuttle bus service to and from Mather Point will be available every 10-15 minutes between 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Recommended arrival time to the event site is 9:45 a.m.



Yaki Point / Kaibab Loop Shuttle – normal service.

West Rim Loop Shuttle - normal service.

Temporary Road Closure on April 23, 1999

The park entrance road will be temporarily closed to *all* traffic between East Rim Drive and Yavapai Point (including Mather Point - see map below) between 7:00 a.m. and approximately 12:00 noon.

UserFee
Your Fees at Work

During this closure, visitors will use Center Road to access the Village.

Park rangers will be stationed at Center Road and East Rim intersections to direct traffic during this closure. Please pay special attention to traffic personnel and temporary signage during the event.

